

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An apparatus and a method of arbitrating access to a common bus, for a first set of modules included in a message transmission system, are disclosed. Using the apparatus and method of the present invention, each module is able to send an access requesting signal to an access arbiter, only after its predetermined standby period is expired. The method includes setting a standby period of each module, identifying a second set of modules whose standby periods are determined to be expired, and allowing each of the second set of modules to send an access requesting signal. Therefore, each module of the system can avoid any message traffic congestion and, consequently, the stability of the whole system can be greatly enhanced.

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